



## DAN TREFETHEN, CANDIDATE DIRECTOR

### **SLA Member Since 1978**

#### **Employment History:**

*1997 - Present: Boeing Air Traffic Management, Seattle, WA*  
I was hired to establish a research collection of air traffic management (ATM) material and provide sophisticated information delivery services for the ATM organization. My Solo services include a full online catalog to both physical and electronic resources, and a weekly newsletter of the global events in air traffic management, distributed to Boeing employees worldwide. I created my group's internal web site, and currently maintain the contents of two sites (internal and external). I also wrote and produced a major promotional video in cooperation with Boeing Video Services.

#### **Past Employment:**

*1982-1997: TRA Architecture Engineering Planning Interiors Ltd., Seattle, WA*  
For this major architectural and engineering company I operated a multidisciplinary Solo library, serving architects, structural engineers, graphic designers and others. I managed one of the largest and oldest A/E archives in private ownership in the Pacific Northwest.

I have also worked as a librarian for a small economics firm, and the University of Washington Health Sciences Library.

**Education:** Masters in Librarianship, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 1978; Bachelor's degree in English, University of Washington, 1977.

**SLA Chapter Activities:** Pacific Northwest Chapter: President, 1985-1986. Secretary-Treasurer, 1983-1984. Discussion List Owner, 2000-2003. Seattle SLA Conference Local Arrangements Chair, 1996-1997.

**SLA Division Activities:** Solo Librarians Division: Chair, 1993-1994. Museums, Arts & Humanities Division: Secretary-Treasurer, 1987-1989. Member of Engineering, Transportation, Information Technology Divisions; Information Futurists Caucus.

**Association-Level Activities:** Nashville Conference Committee, 2002-2004. Task Force on Simplification, 2000-2001. SLA Nominating Committee, 2000-2001. Consultation Services Committee, 1987-1992.

**Awards:** Fellow of the Special Libraries Association, 2000.

#### **Selected Publications:**

"The Savvy Conference-Goer Does SLA", *Information Outlook*, v.7, no.5, May 2003. This article on how to make the most of the SLA conference experience was originally published in 1990 in the Pacific Northwest Chapter's newsletter, and has undergone annual revisions.

"The Bylaws Changes: Nefarious Plot, or Unlocking the Handcuffs?", *Interface*, v. 36, no.3, Spring 2002. An attempt to make sense of the proposed SLA bylaws changes (which were subsequently approved by the membership).

"Musings on Mission Creep", *Interface*, v. 36, no.1, October 2001. How to manage your career to deal with expansion of your job requirements.

"Designing the One-Person Library" and "SLA's One-Person Library Roundtable: A Report", published in *The Best of OPL: Five Years of The One-Person Library*, Andrew Berner and Guy St. Clair, Washington, DC: Special Libraries Association, 1990.

"What Works" advice column, *SLA Chapter Cabinet Occasional Letter*, 1986-1987.

Article about Dan Trefethen: "Profile: Dan Trefethen", *The One-Person Library*, v. 9, no.2, June 1992, pp. 1-3.

1) One of SLA's Core Values is: "Leadership: Strengthening our roles as information leaders in our organizations and in our communities, including shaping information policy." How would you move forward in accomplishing this?

Our members face daily challenges on issues like digital copyright and licensing, access to government information, and proving their value to management. To win these battles and to be leaders in their organizations and communities, they need a bold Association behind them. I will focus on providing our members the tools and information they need to face these and other 'hot-button' issues. 12,000 information professionals will not agree on policy on each issue, but they can work with the best advice and counsel that the Association can give.

Leaders are only as effective as their understanding of constituents' concerns. I support greater feedback to the Board, SLA staff, and to chapter and division leadership through the use of methods such as the SurveyMonkey polling device, personal networking, and aggressive monitoring and summarizing of SLA discussion lists and newsletters. The members are speaking - we can be better leaders by listening.

2) What has been your most significant contribution to SLA?

As my selected list of publications shows, I have devoted my efforts to help SLA members leverage their ability to use Association knowledge and tools to affect their professional lives. I take to heart the Solo Librarians Division motto, "working together for those working alone". I am proud of serving as the third chair of the Division at a pivotal time of growth, when the Division was transitioning from a newly-minted entity to become one of the largest and most dynamic units in the Association. To create new bonds among members, we performed an extensive survey and published a membership directory with a never-before-seen subject index that focused on our members' specialties. My work in connecting people to the power of SLA includes the authorship of the "Savvy Conference-Goer Does SLA" series of articles, updated for 13 years now, for the benefit of new (and returning!) conference attendees.

3) What has been your most significant accomplishment working in the information profession?

I am proudest of my years of advocating Solo library practice as a powerful way to integrate our services into the businesses of our constituents, working closely with them as teammates. I have worked to expand awareness of librarians' capabilities -- both on the part of our customers and that of librarians, too, who sometimes are too self-limiting. To promote jobs for librarians, I served on the SLA Consultation Services Committee, and as President of the Pacific Northwest Chapter, attended meetings of the local Chamber of Commerce to promote the value of librarians as teammates in the workplace.